

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 SECTIONS USNATO 0112

EXDIS

FOR EUR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (MONDALE, WALTER F.), NATO, PFOR, NAC

SUBJECT: VICE-PRESIDENT-ELECT'S VISIT TO NATO

REF: (A) STATE 5532, (B) USNATO 0100

SUMMARY: THERE FOLLOWS, AS A CONTRIBUTION TO THE PREPARATION FOR VICE PRESIDENT-ELECT MONDALE'S VISIT TO NATO, OUR SUGGESTIONS FOR A SCOPE PAPER INCORPORATING THEMES HE MIGHT WISH TO HIGHLIGHT IN HIS MEETING WITH THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL. THIS PAPER ALSO INCLUDES ELEMENTS OF AN ILLUSTRATIVE SCHEDULE THAT WE ARE WORKING OUT WITH EMBASSY BRUSSELS AND USEC, AND THAT WILL BE FORWARDED BY SEPTTEL.
END SUMMARY.

2. BEGIN TEXT OF SCOPE PAPER

SETTING

YOUR VISIT TO NATO COMES AT A TIME WHEN THE ALLIES ARE INCREASINGLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE STEADY DEVELOPMENT OF SOVIET MILITARY POWER IN EUROPE, SOVIET CAPABILITIES TO PROJECT POWER AND INFLUENCE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD,
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SUSTAINED SOVIET IDEOLOGICAL HOSTILITY, AND DEEP UNCERTAINTY OVER THE ECONOMIC PROSPECTS OF THE WEST AND THEIR LONG-RANGE EFFECTS ON WESTERN POLITICAL PURPOSE AND DEFENSE.

THE ALLIES SEE THE PRESENT AS A TIME OF PAUSE AND STOCK-TAKING IN EAST-WEST RELATIONS. THEY RECOGNIZE THAT THE MAJOR INITIATIVE ASSOCIATED WITH DETENTE--SALT, MBFR AND CSCE--HAVE NOT COMPOSED UNDERLYING CONFLICTS IN EAST-WEST RELATIONS. WHILE DETERMINED TO

PURSUE THEIR DETENTE POLICIES, THE ALLIES VIEW THE DYNAMICS OF EAST-WEST RELATIONS AS INCREASINGLY INFLUENCED BY GROWING SOVIET MILITARY STRENGTH AND THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC WEAKNESS OF WESTERN EUROPE--A WEAKNESS THAT HAS BEEN DRIVEN HOME OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS BY SOARING ENERGY COSTS, PRESSURES ON DEFENSE BUDGETS, WEAK DOMESTIC GOVERNMENT, AND SLACKENING OF THE IMPULSE TOWARD UNITY. IN THIS SITUATION, THE ALLIES LOOK TO THE UNITED STATES FOR LEADERSHIP IN MAINTAINING THE MILITARY BALANCE, IN PROVIDING FRESH ECONOMIC IMPETUS, AND IN REASSERTING WESTERN MORAL PURPOSES.

ALLIES WILL WARMLY WELCOME YOUR VISIT TO NATO IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE INAUGURATION--A VISIT THAT WILL BE PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT TO THE SMALLER ALLIES IN PROVIDING A SENSE OF DIRECT AND IMMEDIATE CONTACT WITH THE NEW ADMINISTRATION. ALLIED REPRESENTATIVES AT NATO WILL LOOK TO YOU TO OUTLINE BASIC PURPOSES AND INITIAL VIEWS. THEY WILL BE INTERESTED PRIMARILY IN AN AFFIRMATION OF CENTRAL THEMES: THE US COMMITMENT TO TRANS-ATLANTIC COOPERATION AND TO THE COMMON DEFENSE, TO VIGOROUS COOPERATION ON ECONOMIC PROBLEMS, AND TO STEADFASTNESS IN THE PURSUIT OF IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH THE EAST. GIVEN THE EXTENSIVE EUROPEAN PRESS COVERAGE OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S RECENT STATEMENTS, ALLIED REPRESENTATIVES WILL WISH TO HEAR IN PARTICULAR ABOUT THE CONFIDENTIAL

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NEW ADMINISTRATION'S PLANS FOR ECONOMIC RECOVERY OF THE WEST, A POSSIBLE MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT WITH BREZHNEV, AND THE ADMINISTRATION'S PLANS FOR SALT.

FORMAT FOR NATO VISIT

NATO HEADQUARTERS, WHERE YOU WILL MEET WITH SECRETARY GENERAL LUNS AND THE FIFTEEN PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES WHO COMPRISE THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL, IS A VAST BARRACKS-LIKE COMPLEX TWENTY MINUTES FROM THE CENTER OF BRUSSELS. YOU WILL MEET WITH THE SECRETARY GENERAL AND HIS IMMEDIATE STAFF IN HIS OFFICE FOR ABOUT THIRTY MINUTES. THEN, ALSO ACCOMPANIED BY AMBASSADOR STRAUZ-HUPE, YOU WILL JOIN THE OTHER NATO AMBASSADORS FOR A ONE-HOUR MEETING OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL IN ITS REGULAR CONFERENCE ROOM. YOU WILL BE SEATED NEXT TO AMBASSADOR STRAUZ-HUPE AT THE US ALPHABETICAL POSITION AROUND A CIRCULAR TABLE. THE SECRETARY GENERAL WILL BE PREPARED TO INTRODUCE YOU AND TO ASK YOU TO MAKE AN OPENING STATEMENT. FOLLOWING YOUR INITIAL REMARKS, WE EXPECT THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES WILL WISH TO MAKE OBSERVATIONS AND ASK QUESTIONS.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 USNATO 0112

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (GARBLED TEXT)

FOR EUR

AFTER THE COUNCIL MEETING, WE BELIEVE IT IMPORTANT
FOR YOU TO MEET WITH THE PRESS IN THE NATO PRESS THEATER FOR
ABOUT TWENTY MINUTES, FOR WE EXPECT INTENSE PRESS INTEREST.

NATO PERSONALITIES

JOSEPH LUNS, WHO WAS FOREIGN MINISTER OF THE NETHER-
LANDS FOR ALMOST TWENTY YEARS AFTER THE WAR, HAS BEEN
SECRETARY GENERAL OF NATO FOR FIVE YEARS. HE IS AN
IMPOSING, BLUFF, HARDY, JOCULAR FIGURE, CONSERVATIVE
BY TEMPERMENT AND REPUTATION, VASTLY FAMILIAR WITH THE
PROBLEMS OF EUROPE AND THE ALLIANCE--AND A SOLID FRIEND
OF THE UNITED STATES, CONSISTENTLY HELPFUL IN SUPPORTING
OUR OBJECTIVES IN THE ALLIANCE. HE WILL WANT PRIMARILY
TO WELCOME YOU, TO AFFIRM HIS DESIRE TO ASSIST AND
COOPERATE WITH THE NEW ADMINISTRATION, AND DO DISCUSS
BRIEFLY WITH YOU YOUR MEETING WITH THE COUNCIL.

THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES ARE A MIXED LOT.
SOME, LIKE SIR JOHN KILICK, THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR,
ARE BRILLIANT AND EFFECTIVE PERSONALITIES. A FEW ARE
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DRAB. ALL, HOWEVER, ARE EXPERIENCED, SENIOR REPRESENTATIVES
OF ALLIED GOVERNMENTS--MANY OF LONG TENURE IN NATO AFFAIRS
AND THE COUNCIL-- WHO WILL REPORT TO THEIR CAPITALS ON THEIR
MEETING WITH YOU AS A SIGNIFICANT EVENT PROVIDING FIRST IMPRE-
SIONS OF THE OBJECTIVES AND PURPOSES OF THE NEW ADMINISTRATION.

GENERAL THEMES YOU SHOULD STRESS AT NATO

ABOVE ALL, YOU SHOULD CONVEY A SENSE OF THE
ASPIRATIONS, THE HOPES, AND THE CENTRAL PURPOSES OF
THE NEW ADMINISTRATION.

THE FACT THAT THE NEW PRESIDENT HAS SENT YOU TO MEET FIRST WITH ALLIED REPRESENTATIVES AT NATO SYMBOLIZES AND AFFIRMS THE IMPORTANCE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND THE NEW ADMINISTRATION ATTACH TO OUR NATO COMMITMENT.

YOU MIGHT SAY YOU HAVE COME TO NATO NOT TO DEAL WITH SPECIFIC NATO ISSUES, BUT RATHER TO LISTEN TO THE GENERAL CONCERNS AND SUGGESTIONS OF OUR ALLIES AND TO SHARE WITH THEM THE INITIAL PLANS OF THE PRESIDENT AS THEY HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED DURING THE TRANSITION PERIOD.

SPECIFIC POINTS YOU MIGHT HIGHLIGHT ARE:

--THE ADMINISTRATION'S INTENTION TO MAINTAIN STRONG US DEFENSES COMMENSURATE WITH THE THREAT.

--US READINESS TO COOPERATE IN STIMULATING WESTERN ECONOMIES.

--THE NEED FOR ALL ALLIES TO DEVOTE SUFFICIENT RESOURCES, DESPITE ECONOMIC PRESSURES, TO DEFENSE IN ORDER TO BALANCE THE GROWING CAPABILITIES OF THE WARSAW PACT.

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--THE NEED FOR ALLIES TO IMPROVE THEIR DEFENSE EFFORTS, ONCE EUROPE'S ECONOMIC CONDITIONS HAVE IMPROVED.

--THE NEED TO MAINTAIN AND STRENGTHEN ALLIED UNITY AND TO RESOLVE DISPUTES AMONG ALLIES.

--THE NEED TO STRENGTHEN POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS BY DISCUSSING FORTHRIGHTLY ALLIED APPROACHES TO COMMON PROBLEMS THAT AFFECT THE COMMON SECURITY.

--THE NEED TO INSURE THAT OUR PUBLICS AND PARLIAMENTS APPRECIATE NATO'S VITAL ROLE IN DEFENSE OF DEMOCRACY AND WESTERN VALUES. END TEXT.

STRAUSZ-HUPHUPE

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